

Abstract of the Disclosure

Porphyrins containing one or more negatively-charged, amphiphilic *nido*-carborane substituents have antiviral or virucidal activity. The most active compounds tested to date are negatively charged, amphiphilic, and water-soluble. The negative charges lie primarily in the boron clusters. The carbon-carbon bonds linking the boron-containing groups to the porphyrin ring make the compounds highly resistant to hydrolysis. These compounds have strong potential for use as antiviral and virucidal drugs, as they are highly stable, water-soluble, negatively-charged, amphiphilic, and have low toxicity to normal mammalian cells. Preliminary tests *in vitro* have shown high activity against HIV.